

REMARKS

It is submitted that the claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103 or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 1-20, 22, 24, 25, 29, 31, and 32 have been canceled. Claims 21, 23, 27, 28, 30, and 34, and amended claims 26 and 33 are in this application.

Claims 21, 23, 28 and 30 were allowed.

Claims 26, 27, 33 and 34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 26 and 33 have been respectively rewritten herein in independent form to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 27 and 34 depend from claims 26 and 33, respectively. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 26, 27, 33 and 34 are allowable.

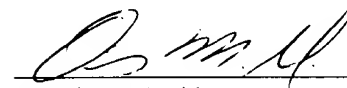
Claims 22, 24, 25, 29, 31 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hornak et al. of record. As previously indicated, claims 22, 24, 25, 29, 31 and 32 have been canceled.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are allowable, and early official notice to that effect is solicited.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith
to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. M. Smid", written over a horizontal line.

Dennis M. Smid
Reg. No. 34,930
(212) 588-0800